

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: David Kennedy, City Manager

RE: Weekly Update

DATE: May 6, 2022

Administration

Tuesday's election results included the passing of the city's Fire and EMS Levy. The recognition by our residents of the incredible services provided by LSFD is obvious.

This week, the new DORA stickers were completed, and a letter was mailed to all DORA establishments. The stickers will be affixed to clear cups by the businesses. As the new cups do not include the DORA rules as the previous version did, we will be working with the businesses to provide small signs with the rules. These will be in addition to the DORA rule a-frame type sign that the city places out near the town clock. Based on a conversation with a DORA establishment, they anticipate a .40 cent savings per cup. Special thanks to Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Krista Rose for all of efforts in this project.



Monday, the Civil Service Commission met to finalize the hiring process for both the Police Records Clerk and the Finance Clerk positions. Following the commission's approval, Human Resources Manager, Joy Deardorff began process to fill these two positions.

Wednesday, I had the privilege to speak with Gavin Albrecht regarding downtown development and parking. Gavin is working to fulfill a requirement for the Citizenship in the Community Merit badge, which is one of the badges he is earning towards becoming an Eagle Scout.

Building and Zoning

After working with MSD to complete all relevant application processes, the new Rumpke Fleet Maintenance Facility received MSD approval and a final building permit was issued, allowing this project to proceed. Construction work should start very soon. At Hops and Berry, interior finish work continues. Televisions

and other interior fixtures are being installed currently at the new establishment. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed a Special Exception application filed by Hops and Berry to establish a Mobile Food Vendor adjacent to their beer garden and patio area within the Downtown Historic District. That case was continued until the next meeting, which will occur on June 7, 2022.

Additional highlights from the Building and Zoning Department's activities from this past week include:

- Renovations at the Wicked Pickle continue, with some business activities resuming on the site.
- Foundation work continues at Blossom Hill, resulting in progress toward the completion of Building #1.
- Staff facilitated a development review meeting with the development team for the Mike's Express Carwash expansion project. As a result of this meeting, updated plans are forthcoming and a permit will be issued soon, assuming all comments are addressed.

On Wednesday of this week, Staff met with Jeremy Evans and Sukie Sheetz with the Clermont County Transportation Improvement District to discuss strategies and partnerships for exploring corridor studies to relieve congestion at the West Loveland Avenue bridge.

The Planning and Zoning Commission met on Wednesday May 4, 2022, to consider three cases.

- 1) <u>Case # 22-03:</u> Public Hearing for a Special Exception Mobile Food Vendor use at 118 Karl Brown Way filed by Hops and Berry. The Commission voted to continue the public hearing to June 7, 2022.
- 2) <u>Case #22-04:</u> Preliminary Review of an application Requesting Initiating the Establishment of a Special Planning District (SPD) for Oak Street, filed by Hunt and Whitaker, LLC. The Commission took favorable action regarding the SPD Preliminary Review application filed by Hunt and Whitaker, setting the matter for a public hearing on June 7, 2022.
- 3) Case #22-02: Continuation of March 17, 2022, Public Hearing for the Establishment of an SPD at 932 O'Bannonville Road, otherwise identified as the Harvest SPD, filed by Drees Homes. The Commission voted to adopt a motion to Not Recommend the Initiation of the SPD as required by Part 11, Title 3, Chapter 1151, Section 1151.02(a)(2)(C) of the Planning and Zoning Code. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 to 1, with Mr. Redmond, Mr. Bateman, and Mr. O'Neill voting to adopt the motion, and Mr. Kressler voting against its adoption.

Public Works

The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) had a geophysicist on site at East Kemper Road/Riverside Drive this week as part of the feasibility study for the bank stability project.

Water tower cleaning at Lever Park, Commerce Drive, and Union-Cemetery Road, is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday through Thursday of next week.

Also, Public Works crews repaired two water main breaks on Loveland-Madeira Road this week. Crews have also been busy helping to prepare Kiwanis Park for the grand opening ceremony for the dog park.

On Friday Public Works Director Scott Wisby, and City Engineer Cindy Klopfenstein, attended a pavement management workshop with product demonstration.

Thursday, the city was notified by the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) that our grant application through their Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to replace the backup generator at the water plant was not approved for funding. Within the correspondence, OEMA referenced that the project may be eligible for funding through their Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. The BRIC applications are due in the fall, and City Engineer, Cindy Klopfenstein and I are currently reviewing the requirements.

Work on the exterior of the new Public Works building continued this week.



Police

On April 29, officers responded to the Mobile gas station at 106 West Loveland after receiving a report of a fraudulent charge to a victim's credit card. After inspecting the pumps, skimmers wrapped in black electric tape, pictured below, were found on two of the four gas pumps at this station. The other two photos are examples of security measures that are placed on pumps to ensure the pumps have not been tampered with before pumping fuel. Several other victims have been identified and this case is still on going.



The LPD National Drug Take Back resulted in eight boxes of disposed medications being collected in one day. On behalf of the department, I'd like to give a shout out to our Loveland Citizen Police Academy Alumni for all their help and commitment to making this day a success.





Lastly, a report of a lost/stolen air pod was reported to LPD this past week. Officers pursued the case finding the item to be in Loveland per Apple location services. Leg work from patrol and SRO's found the items to be in the possession of the Little Miami track coach. The Victim had left their air pod at the track meet at Little Miami High School and the track coach had held on to it for the rightful owner. This is an example of one of LPD's core values in action, customer-oriented service, and going beyond the basic level of service.

Public Relations

A new e-newsletter was sent this week, highlighting May events happening around the city and promoting the LovinLifeLoveland.com website. This is a new e-newsletter city staff has developed that will be distributed around the fifth day of the month to the city's email subscriber list.



Dates were released for the <u>2022 Movie in the Park Series</u>. Three movies compose the series, which kicks off July 23 with a showing of *The Sandlot*. Thank you to BRS Insurance, who has graciously sponsored the entire series!

Marketing & Communications Coordinator Krista Rose and Building Department Clerk Becky Noel met with Homearama's marketing team this week to discuss signage, in-person marketing, and communication tools to share Homearama news with city residents. In July, residents will start seeing signs around town and coupons at various locations to promote the August event.

A special thanks to LPD Officer Michael Wright who filmed a <u>video</u> this week to help promote the department's current job opening for a full-time officer.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

The Grand Opening for the Dog Park will be held on Saturday, May 7, at 10 a.m. at Kiwanis Park.

The Ramsey-Paxton Cemetery <u>Dedication</u> will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the White Pillars subdivision.

The Beautification Committee will be planting flowers on Saturday morning.

A special Council Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The Arts Commission will meet on Monday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The City Records Commission will meet on Tuesday, May 10, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

City Council will meet on Tuesday, May 10, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 12, at 6:00 p.m.

The Tree and Environment Committee will also meet on Thursday, May 12, at 7:30 p.m.

I will be out of the office on Friday, May 13. In my absence, Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright will serve as Acting-City Manager.